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**C**enter for  
**Hearing Loss Help**  
[www.hearinglosshelp.com](http://www.hearinglosshelp.com)

*Driver has special communication needs*

*See the back of this card for the best  
ways to communicate with the driver.*

# Driver is Hard of Hearing

Failure to cooperate with verbal commands means I am NOT hearing you



I have special communication needs

See the back of this card for the best  
ways to communicate with me.

## I am Hard of Hearing

**Officer**, I am hard of hearing. This means that I speak normally. I do NOT use sign language. I communicate using what hearing I have, and may supplement it with hearing aids, with various assistive devices and by speechreading (lipreading). None of these work perfectly, so if I still miss key words or instructions, please write them on a piece of paper for me.

Here's some specific ways you can effectively communicate with me:

- » Try to eliminate background noise, or wait for a pause in the traffic.
- » Look directly at me when you speak to me. Do not cover your mouth with your hands or papers.
- » If you have a mustache, beard or accent, and/or I can't understand you, let me try to hear/speechread your partner instead. Some people are much easier for me to speechread/hear/understand than others.
- » Speak slowly and clearly. Speak up, but don't shout. If I need you to talk louder, I'll say so.
- » Be sure there is enough light for me to see your face clearly. If not, move under a streetlight or into a lighted area.
- » Don't shine your flashlight in my eyes. I need to see YOUR face to "hear" you.
- » Get close. This helps me both hear and speechread you better.
- » If all else fails, write down key words.

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### I am a Hard of Hearing Person

When talking to me, please do the following:

- » Get my attention before you begin speaking.
- » Get close. Speak slowly and clearly, but do not shout.
- » Look directly at me when you speak to me.
- » Try to eliminate any background sounds.
- » Make sure there is enough light on your face (and not in my eyes) so I can speechread you.
- » If all else fails, write down key words.

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